

Local High School Students to Learn Advanced Driving Skills During May 1-2 Events, Meet NHRA Funny Car Driver Courtney Force

What: Nearly 400 students from 28 high schools will get behind the wheel of Ford vehicles this Thursday and Friday, May 1-2, on a closed course to learn safe driving techniques from an experienced driving instructor, and meet professional race car driver and Ford Driving Skills for Life spokesperson, Courtney Force.

The instruction will include advanced skills and safe driving techniques for hazard recognition, vehicle handling, avoiding distractions and the dangers of impairment.

Courtney Force is driver of the 300 mph+ Traxxas Ford Mustang Funny Car in the world's fastest motorsport, NHRA. As the Ford Driving Skills for Life spokesperson, she is committed to helping teens understand the importance of buckling up and exercising safe driving habits.

This hands-on event is the culmination of the 2013-2014 Strive For a Safer Drive (S4SD) program, which provides funding and resources for teens to develop peer-to-peer traffic safety campaigns at their high schools.

S4SD is sponsored by AAA Michigan, Ford Driving Skills for Life and the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.

When:

Student Schedule, May 1-2

Session 1 & 3: 7:30 a.m.-noon

Session 2 & 4: 1-5:30 p.m.

**See list of participating schools on page 2*

Courtney Force Schedule, May 2 Only

8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Driving instruction, interviews, photos, remarks

Where: Ford Dearborn Development Center (enter from Gate 5A)
20400 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn, Michigan 48124

Visuals: Nearly 400 high school students participating in advanced, hands-on driver training; interviews with students and Courtney Force (May 2 only) regarding teen driving safety; opportunity for media to ride along with students during instruction

Media representatives will not be permitted in other areas of the facility and must sign a waiver upon entering the facility.

RSVP: Media representatives are asked to RSVP to Ed Saenz, Ford Motor Company, at (313) 248-6500 or esaenz6@ford.com. Media in attendance will be required to check-in at the security gate and be escorted to the event area. RSVPs will expedite this process.

Contact: Susan Hiltz, AAA Michigan, (586) 940-0278
Ed Saenz, Ford Motor Company, (313) 248-6050
Melody Kindraka, Office of Highway Safety Planning, (517) 241-1522
Kate Storey, PCGCampbell for Courtney Force, (313) 203-7220



Office of Highway Safety Planning

***Participating Schools:**

Session 1: May 1, 7:30 a.m.-noon	
Clio High School	Genesee County
Freeland High School	Saginaw County
Swan Valley High School	Saginaw County
Yale High School	St. Clair County
Ecorse High School	Wayne County
Pershing High School	Wayne County

Session 2: May 1, 1-5:30 p.m.	
Coloma High School	Berrien County
Holt High School	Ingham County
Williamston High School	Ingham County
Hanover-Horton High School	Jackson County
Vandercook Lake High School	Jackson County
Greenville High School	Kent County
University High School	Oakland County
Careerline Tech High School	Ottawa County
Plymouth High School	Wayne County

Session 3: May 2, 7:30 a.m.-noon	
Memphis High School	Macomb & St. Clair Counties
Clarkston High School	Oakland County
Bloomfield High School	Oakland County
Lake Orion High School	Oakland County
Lamphere High School	Oakland County
Milan High School	Washtenaw County
Cass Tech High School	Wayne County
Edsel Ford High School	Wayne County
John Glenn High School	Wayne County

Session 4: May 2, 1-5:30 p.m.	
Jackson High School	Jackson County
Holly High School	Oakland County
Fordson High School	Wayne County

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